

## SPECIAL BULLETIN

### \*\*New Hearing Aid Program Implemented\*\*

January 2008 - Funds for the Assistive Technology (AT) program were transferred to the Early Intervention Branch effective of January 1, 2008. However, the Children and Youth Branch will continue to provide reimbursement for the initial hearing aids and related expenses for children 0 – 3 years of age, who are not eligible for Medicaid and who are not enrolled in Early Intervention (EI) at the time the initial hearing aids are recommended. This "EHDI Initial Hearing Aid Program" will fund the first hearing aid(s), ear mold(s), batteries, care kit, and dispensing fees for those children. Reimbursement may also be requested for the difference between allowable costs and any insurance coverage.

Providers are asked to continue to complete and submit the DHHS 3056 form to Purchase of Medical Care Services (POMCS). Please insert "EHDI Initial Hearing Aid" in box #12 for the program name. The 3056 form can be found on POMCS website [www.dhhs.state.nc.us/control/pomcs/pomcs.htm](http://www.dhhs.state.nc.us/control/pomcs/pomcs.htm) or at [www.ncnewbornhearing.org](http://www.ncnewbornhearing.org). Claims are submitted to POMCS using the HCFA 1500 claim form and submitted to the Claims Processing Unit with copies of the audiological testing, medical clearance, and proof of insurance denial if needed.

Purchase of Medical Care Services  
DHHS – Office of the Controller  
1904 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-1904

Diagnosing audiologists are reminded to refer all young children 0 – 3 years of age to the Children's Developmental Services Agency (CDSA) in the child's county of residence either by telephone or by fax. All subsequent requests for funding will need to be coordinated with this CDSA. The EI Branch Central Office can be contacted at (919) 707-5520 for general questions.

For additional information about the EHDI Initial Hearing Aid program, please contact Kathleen Watts, EDHI Program Manager in C&Y at (919) 707-5632 or [Kathleen.watts@ncmail.net](mailto:Kathleen.watts@ncmail.net).

Thank you for all that you do to help children with hearing loss and their families.